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Docket No.: 13762 US (C38435/109729)

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REPLY UNDER
37 CFR § 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1652

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Scott W. Van ARSDELL, *et al.*)

Serial No.: 08/914,332

) Examiner: Delia M. Ramirez

Filed: July 14, 1997

) Art Unit: 1652 -

For: **OVERCOMING DAPA**
AMINOTRANSFERASE BOTTLENECKS IN)
BIOTIN VITAMERS BIOSYNTHESIS

08/26/2003 SSITHIRI 00000146 024467 08914332
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New York, New York
August 22, 2003

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING
AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 116

RECEIVED

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 27 2003

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 22, 2003, (Paper No. 35) and telephonic Interviews between the Examiner and the undersigned conducted on June 17 and July 15, 2003 ("Interviews"). In accordance with comments made by the Examiner during the Interviews, the following amendments are submitted to place the application in condition for allowance.

Application No.: 08/914,332
Amendment Dated: August 22, 2003
Reply to Office Action Dated: April 22, 2003

The Office Action set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. A one-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action has been requested and a Notice of Appeal has been filed in a separate paper captioned NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a). A copy of this paper is enclosed as Exhibit 1. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed with an executed certificate of mailing on or before August 22, 2003.

Because the Office Action made the rejection of the pending claims final, consideration of this response pursuant to the expedited procedure for response after final rejection set forth in MPEP § 714.13 (8th Ed., Rev. 1, February 2003, pp. 700-209 to 700-210) respectfully is solicited.

Please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS: none.

REMARKS begin on page 10 of this paper.